UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/49/255/Add.1
2 September 1994
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH

Forty-ninth session
Item 137 of the provisional agenda*

STATUS OF THE PROTOCOLS ADDITIONAL TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 1949 AND RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF ARMED CONFLICTS

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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* A/49/150.

BELGIUM

[Original: French]

[19 August 1994]

1. Belgium ratified the Protocol additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the protection of victims of international armed conflicts (Protocol I), adopted at Geneva on 8 June 1977, on 20 May 1986 and it entered into force for Belgium on 20 November 1986.

2. Belgium also ratified the Protocol additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the protection of victims of non-international armed conflicts (Protocol II), adopted at Geneva on 8 June 1977, on 20 May 1986 and it entered into force for Belgium on 20 November 1986.

HUNGARY

[Original: English]

[20 July 1994]

1. Hungary has been a party to the additional Protocols I and II since 12 October 1989. Furthermore, the Republic of Hungary made the declaration provided for under article 90 of Protocol I and deposited it with the Government of the Swiss Confederation on 23 September 1991.

2. The new Act of Defence of the Republic of Hungary (Act No. CX/1993) provides that soldiers must respect the rules of international law relating to armed conflicts and to the protection of the victims of war. Among the obligations to be performed by the armed forces in conformity with international treaties, the special importance of the rules of international humanitarian law is underlined by the new Act.

3. The teaching and dissemination of the laws of war, in particular the Geneva Conventions and the additional Protocols I and II, have become more up-to-date in the training institutions of the armed forces, and international cooperation in this field has also been expanded. The establishment of a staff of consultants on the laws of war has also been completed.

4. Since 1989, the Hungarian Red Cross has taken a more active part in the dissemination and application of international humanitarian law. In this regard, the Hungarian Red Cross receives valuable assistance from the International Committee of the Red Cross, for example, in the form of courses, publications and practical training organized by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. At international forums, in conformity with the basic principles of the International Red Cross movement, the Hungarian Red Cross has been calling for and promoting the respect of these principles and, within its possibilities, has been appealing to the parties concerned to respect these principles. In the dissemination of the rules of international humanitarian law, a great number of volunteers, among them especially those of

the Youth Movement of the Hungarian Red Cross, play an essential role. The Hungarian Red Cross, after the successful training course for officers of the armed forces in 1991, plans to organize basic training on international humanitarian law for other units of the armed forces and the police and for representatives of local and municipal authorities.